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Socialist Zohran Mamdani's wife, Rama Duwaji, appears to wear luxury \$630 boots to swearing-in ceremony

By

[Natalie O'Neill](#)

Published Jan. 1, 2026

Updated Jan. 2, 2026, 12:36 p.m. ET

Comments

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Their “affordability” agenda got off on the wrong foot.

New York City's first lady [Rama Duwaji](#) appeared to wear \$630 “artisan” leather boots from a high-end designer to her Democratic socialist husband [Zohran Mamdani's](#) mayoral swearing-in ceremony — a luxury look that flew in the face of the politician's “everyman” image, eagle-eyed critics said Thursday.

Duwaji, a 28-year-old artist, gave more socialite than socialist [on New Year's Day](#) as she apparently rocked one of the fashion house Miista's pricey boot designs — one which is said to be crafted from “vegetable tan cow leather” and feature an “ultra-cushioned memory foam insole.”



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Rama Duwaji wore the \$630 boots to her socialist husband's inauguration. AP

The fashion firm charges \$630 a pair for the so-called "Shelley Boots," which feature a 6-centimeter (2.3-inch) heel and a lace-up back.

But her high-end fashion statement — which came as she stood next to Mamdani while he took the oath of office just after midnight — is out of touch, considering Hizzoner's equity-for-all policies that include tax hikes on the rich along with his man-of-the-people air, critics said.

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"Very tasteless," [one user said](#).

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Duwaji wore the \$630 boots to Mamdani's swearing-in ceremony, eagle-eyed observers said. AP

"They're \$600. But when he seizes the means of production, everyone will be able to afford them," one critic proclaimed.

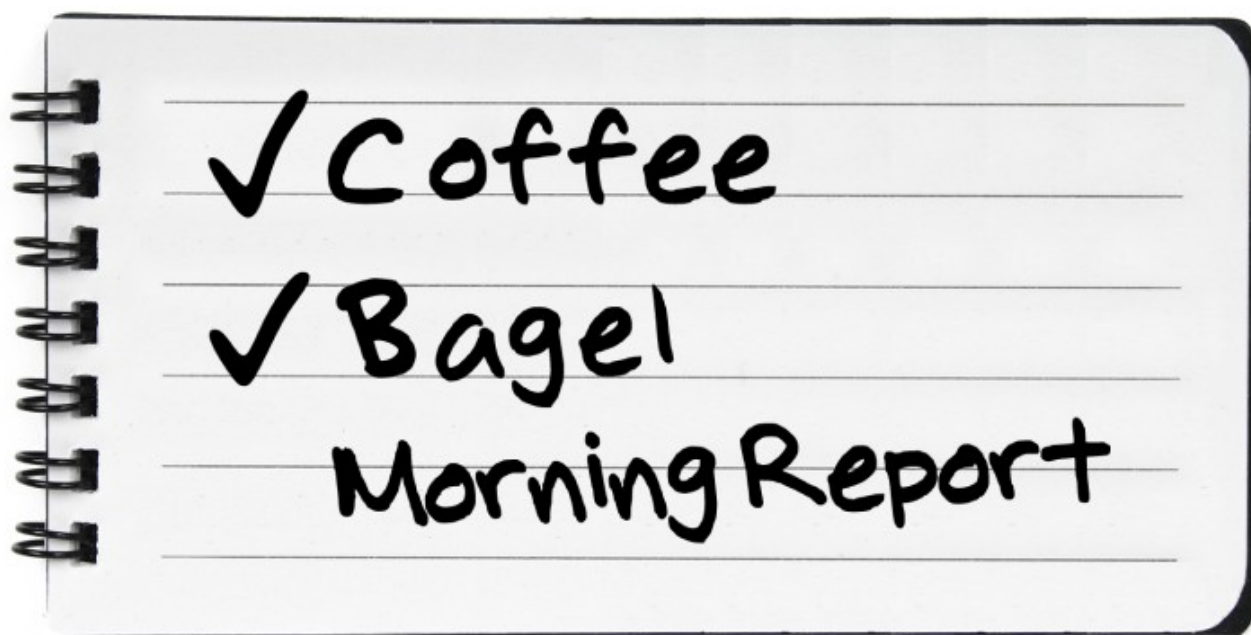
Another user wrote: "It's kind of weird and off base to be focusing on what designer items she's wearing when he's trying to promote policies of financial stability and equity for all. Let's focus on what matters. This is bad optics, honestly."

Duwaji, an animator and illustrator, also wore a black coat and skirt with gleaming earrings to the ceremony, where she held the centuries-old Quran on which Mamdani rested his hand.

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In November, as Mamdani gave his victory speech, Duwaji reportedly wore a dark denim square-neck top made by Palestinian-Jordanian designer Zeid Hijazi along with dangling earrings by the upscale New York City jewelry designer Eddie Borgo, who sells some pairs for more than \$46,000 a pop.



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Zohran Mamdani was sworn in as mayor early Thursday. Getty Images

Duwaji on Thursday didn't immediately return a request for comment from The Post.

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The boots were on loan from the brand, according to Duwaji's stylist Gabriella Karefa-Johnson.

A rep for Miista, which bills itself as "a close-knit group of artisans based in Spain & Portugal," didn't return a request for comment.

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